

Judges 7:9-25 How the Mighty Have Served, pt. 2

2/22/09 - The Exchange

- I. **7:9-14** Last minute encouragement. You may not know what you're doing, or how to do what the Lord has called you to do, but He will build up your confidence in Him before He sends you out.
 - A. **7:9** Wait, what? See **6:16**. Ratio makes it feel like one man.
 - B. **7:10** Me and Purah. Oh that's much better.
 - C. **7:11** "Purah, you awake?" What could they possibly say?
 - D. **7:12** 135K. Really?
 - E. **7:13-14** God is working it from the other end. Probably for a while.
 - 1. Poor man's hamburger bun.
 - 2. Midian is where they wandered for 40 years. Stories of God's power still lingered. Mountain, alter.
 - F. Other examples of the principle
 - 1. Abraham
 - 2. Moses
 - 3. **Acts 1-2**
 - G. What has the Lord called you to do? "Lord, I can't do this!" Good! Now you're ready. Don't let the fact that you can't do it keep you from stepping out in faith. Predicated upon God doing the calling.
- II. **7:15-18** The plan. God will gift, He will equip. He will also use and build on what you already know.
 - A. **7:15 worshipped** - bowed down.
 - 1. Granted, Gideon is in deep. But how often do we respond to God's goodness with worship? Thanksgiving, yes. But how about worship?
 - 2. Purah: "What are you doing?"
 - B. **7:16-18**
 - 1. God gets an individual ready, then puts them with a group of people who aren't ready, to get them ready.
 - 2. What did Gideon know how to do? Get the job done while laying low. Battle parallels thing with alter.
 - C. My transition from teacher to teacher. Passion about subject, desire and some skills to effectively communicate.
 - D. Do you feel called but not gifted? Start with what you know and God will build you from there.
- III. **7:19-25** The battle belongs to the Lord. God is the one who does the work, we reap the benefits.
 - A. Survey. Fight is at night, can't see, only so many torches, friendly fire is easy to do in that environment, especially with God using some psychological warfare.
 - B. In the end, some 120K died (**8:10**).
 - C. The truth is this is God's thing, Gideon et al just along for the ride.
 - D. God is an interactive God. **Rev. 4:11**. Interaction is only possible through Jesus Christ.
 - E. This is where God has done His greatest work, and where we are the greatest beneficiaries. Are you in? It's not me, it's Christ in me.